

SOCIETY

MIDLENT is almost upon us, and while the churches have been well attended at every service, there has seemed to be no dearth of entertainment for the gayly inclined. Dining is just as frequent, bridge is even more so, and the popular sewing circles, which look more industrious in print than they really are, have been particularly gay with the chatter of busy tongues over the new people who will conduct the next social campaign. They will not really become known in Washington until next fall, for the spring or Easter season is not strictly an official one, only just a sort of go-as-you-please season, and there will be many missing official hostesses until the fall "settling" operations begin.

The center of interest, of course, is in the new regime at the White House, which promises to be an extremely interesting and attractive one; but the eyes turn involuntarily toward the old friends, and Oyster Bay and Indianapolis both come in for more than a scant mention in the opera glasses. It is with keen pleasure that one notes the cordial reception given to Col. Roosevelt and his family by their neighbors, and it is with a sort of sigh that one notes that the former Vice President and his popular wife are spending a few days among their neighbors before going on to California to visit their son and grandson.

No matter how attractive the new friend, it is wholesome to have thought for the old.

The President and Mrs. Taft and the Vice President and Mrs. Sherman are making new friends every day. This is as much by their charming democracy and freedom from superficiality as by their sterling worth. The White House is filled with an atmosphere of happiness. Its household and atmosphere form a picture of the prettiest and wholesomest of American home life. Every one is happy and industrious, and thoroughly American, and the informality is delightful.

The last Sunday afternoon outing of the President shows his entire lack of self-consciousness, for when he took his ride he chose the speedway south of the White House, and as soon as he was seen was recognized, and as soon as recognized was followed, and one vehicle after another followed in the follow until fully half a mile of autos, carriages, and equestrians were trailing behind him, and it never spoiled his ride a particle.

At the theater strangers in town rushed madly into his vacant box to grab and preserve a programme which had been in contact with the first family in the land, and it was an interesting sight even for the old stagers to observe that the spirit of the relic hunter was not yet dead, for a New York woman paid some good money for the programme which had lain beside the chair occupied by Mrs. Taft during a concert, and which she had not been fortunate enough to be the successful grabber of.

There are yet echoes of the inaugural ball. Gowns and jewels on exhibition at that function are still quoted and discussed. The treasures of the newspaper reporters are being opened up a little gradually, and during the week a letter from the governor of a well-known State, describing his wife's gown, according to the request of an enterprising daily, was shown and has caused merry comment among his friends. The confiding wife, knowing no doubt that her husband was resourceful, delegated him to write that she would wear an embroidered chiffon in pastel shades, over apricot satin, or something to that effect, but this was his letter:

Mrs. — is too busy getting ready for the grand event to stop and plan and specifications, so I will give you a feasible analysis of her gown. It is a sweet sonnet. A work of art. As Ella Wheeler Wilcox says:

"By artists belted and by artists planned,
Beyond the reach of the apprentice hand."
The architecture is Gothic groundwork, with suggestions of Queen Anne treatment up around the gables; simple, yet elegant, in design and execution. The basement and lower story are snug and cozy, with the half-way all milled down tight; but when we view the superstructure we see the idea expand into a gauzy, dreamy effect, like a conservatory of rare notes with the vines creeping up over the lattice-work, and the entire scheme is happy itself, pastoral, with the atmospheric effect of an Italian sunset; quiet and subdued, yet combining an effect that is very satisfactory to an artistic temperament.

More might be said with propriety, but perhaps this mere suggestion will suffice.

Washington society is showing a tendency toward making something of a literary lion of Philip S. Hichborn, the son of Admiral and Mrs. Philip Hichborn, by reason of his recent achievements as a writer of fiction. Mr. Hichborn, who has done some excellent magazine work, entered a New York paper's short story prize contest, now running, his story having been published February 28 last. It is a pretty story of the adventures of an American horse in the Boer war, and is entitled, "Brutus, Cow Pony."

As a huntsman and whippet-in of the Chevy Chase Hunt, Mr. Hichborn is well qualified, with his literary attainments, to pen a graphic story with the horse as the hero. In the daily voting as published by the New York Herald, the young Washington society man and lawyer stood twentieth from the first prize two weeks ago. Yesterday he advanced to ninth place, and has an excellent chance to stand at the head of the list when the contest ends.

Both he and Mrs. Hichborn, who is the elder daughter of Solicitor General Hoyt, are receiving the congratulations of their friends over his success. The Chevy Chase Hunt especially is taking an interest in seeing the admiral's son secure the first prize of the competition.

Mrs. Newberry, wife of the former Secretary of the Navy, was the recipient of a testimonial from the crew of the Dolphin, upon which she has spent from one to ten days at a time with the Secretary upon his various trips. The Dolphin is commanded by Capt. Thomas Washington, and is manned by a crew who has appreciated especially Mrs. Newberry's graciousness and kindness and her thoughtfulness of all around her, and last week presented her formally with a superb solid silver loving cup handsomely inscribed with their flattering sentiments of her charms.

It is a gift which occupies a conspicuous and honored place in the Newberry home, which abounds with beautiful things of that kind, and the mistress of

the mansion shows this proudly to all her friends. Five members of the crew made the presentation last Tuesday. The former Secretary, with his wife and daughter, will sail March 31 for a several months' trip abroad.

PERSONALS.

Mrs. Taft, wife of the President, accompanied by her two sisters, Mrs. Lewis More and Mrs. Charles Anderson, of Cincinnati, both of whom are guests at the White House, made a trip to Baltimore yesterday in a large automobile. They made a comfortable trip over, done up in large cloaks and auto veils; made a visit to the Walters Gallery, which they thoroughly inspected, so far as

A VISITOR FROM ELKHART, IND.



MRS. EDITH ARMES RUCKER.
Youngest daughter of Col. George A. Armes, who has just returned to her home, after a visit in this city with her two children, where she came to attend the reception of the Army and Navy at the White House.

the works of art are concerned, and made a quick trip back to Washington, looking as though they had had a genuinely good time.

Mrs. Charles Anderson has been the guest of Mrs. Nicholas Anderson since before the inauguration, and went to the White House, to be a guest there, on Friday. She will make a comparatively short stay.

Mrs. Knox, wife of the new Secretary of State, will be at home for the first time since her new honors fell upon her next Wednesday afternoon, in her K street home, quite informally. The Knox home in Washington is the mansion built by Mrs. George W. Childs some years ago, which she sold to the then Attorney General Knox, after occupying it for several winters.

Mrs. Wickersham, wife of the Attorney General, who went to New York early last week for a short visit, returned to the New Willard last evening and joined the Attorney General and his sister, Lady Hadfield. They will take possession of their new Washington home in Sixteenth street, just above Thomas Circle, this week.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Dickinson, who are house guests of Gen. and Mrs. John W. Foster, were guests of honor at dinner last evening of their hosts, who had a small company of official friends to meet them. Judge and Mrs. Dickinson were joined in Baltimore on their way to Washington, by their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dickinson, of Seattle, Wash., who were visiting their sister-in-law in Baltimore. Judge Dickinson will remain in Washington, but Mrs. Dickinson will return to her home on Tuesday.

Justice and Mrs. Barnard are at Atlantic City. Mrs. Barnard will not receive on Monday.

The second secretary of the Brazilian Embassy and Mme. Chermont, who was formerly Miss Sloan, of Baltimore, will sail early in April for several months absence abroad.

The naval attaché of the French Embassy and Mme. de Blannet, who are among the most popular young people in the diplomatic corps here, will sail for France next Tuesday, where the former has been ordered to sea. Mme. de Blannet is a singer, who would have made herself famous with her voice had she chosen the profession instead of a domestic life. She was one of the most popular and familiar figures on the fashionable amateur concert stage here the past several years for the benefit of the fashionable charities.

The Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Meyer have leased the D. P. Morgan house, in Scott circle, occupied for several seasons by Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont, of New York. They will take possession of it next season. They have been for two years in the Jewett house, corner of S street and Connecticut avenue, at the junction of Twenty-first street.

The Assistant Secretary of State and Mrs. Huntington Wilson have leased the K street home of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Ward, and Senator and Mrs. Ellihu Root have taken the apartment the Wilsons vacated.

Mrs. Gillespie, wife of Maj. Gen. Gillespie, who has been quite ill in one of the hospitals here, has so far recovered as to be at home again, but is not yet able to be out.

Mrs. Wright, wife of the former Secretary of War, left Washington yesterday morning for New York, where she will spend a fortnight with her daughters, Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Day, before join-

ing Gen. Wright in Memphis, Tenn., which they will make their future home. Gen. Wright left Washington Friday night for Memphis.

Mrs. H. J. Luce, of New York, who was the guest of Gen. and Mrs. J. Franklin Bell for several weeks, has returned to her home. Miss Van Vorhies, who has been Mrs. Bell's guest for the winter, returned to her home in Ohio early last week.

Maj. Irving W. Rand, Medical Department, United States army, and Mrs. Rand, are the guests of Capt. and Mrs. James T. Boates at the Marine Barracks here.

Miss Eva Picard, of Philadelphia, is the guest of Mrs. A. Powdermaker.

Miss Patty Lisle, of Richmond, Va., who has been visiting Surgeon Henry T. Percy, U. S. N., and Mrs. Percy at the navy yard here, is now the guest of Civil Engineer Thom Williamson, U. S. N., and Mrs. Williamson at their home in R street, this city.

Mrs. Adolph Weyl, of Brightwood, was hostess at a delightful bridge on Monday afternoon. The first prize was won by Mrs. Sol Herzog and the guest's prize by Miss Myra Spandour, of Norfolk, Va.

Mrs. Charles Schneider, of Augusta, Ga., the guest of Mrs. T. Silver, left Wednesday for a short visit to Philadelphia and New York.

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Mrs. Kaufman, of Greensboro, N. C., is the guest of Mrs. Morris Blumenfeld.

Mrs. Lee Baumgarten has as her guest Mrs. Sol Richard, of Burlington, Vt.

Mrs. W. Sinclair Bowen has cards out for March 20 to meet Mr. Ernest Hutcheson, the eminent pianist, at the Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, at 4.30, at Stoneleigh Court.

Mrs. Samuel J. Steinberger, of the Tulane, was hostess at a tea on Wednesday afternoon, and had as her guests Miss Bertha Jones, of Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. Abe Feist, of Newark, N. J.; Mrs. George Silver, of New York; Miss Deslee Marks and Miss Regina Wertman, of New York; Miss Almee Kaufman, Miss Adele Goldman, and Miss Flora Rosenbaum, of Baltimore; Miss Minnie Winter, of New Haven, Conn.; Miss Edna Weyl, Miss Mae Harris, Miss Adelle Silver, Miss Irene Hollander, Mrs. Sidney Kaufman, Mrs. Benjamin Leon, Mrs. Arthur Marks, and Mrs. M. Fellheimer.

Mrs. Benjamin K. Leon has as her guest Miss Flora Rosenbaum, of Baltimore.

Misses Millie and Hortense Morris entertained at bridge on Tuesday evening complimentary to Miss Ray Benjamin, of Atlanta, Ga.; Miss Carrie Adler, of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Miss Dora Garner and Miss Bessie Reynier, of Newport News, Va.; Mrs. Andrew Barchfeld, and Miss Helene Barchfeld, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Mrs. Charles Schneider, of Augusta, Ga. The prizes were awarded to Mrs. Charles Schneider and Mrs. Sol Herzog. The color scheme throughout was pink, and the table decorations were hyacinths and ferns.

Miss Lillian A. Harris was hostess at a dance at the Mercantile Club on Monday evening and had as her guests Misses Gladys May, Irma Kline, of Baltimore; Bella Schiffman, Edith Natans, Rena Fleischman, Emily Hillman, Leona Stern, Irma Strauss, of Baltimore; Celeste Goodman, Lorraine Herman, Rosalie Hirschberg, Rita Baer, Rose Frank, of Baltimore; Natalie Mayer, Ernestine Rich, Pauline Mintner, of Cincinnati; Rhoda Mantner, Florine Kahn, of Baltimore; Mildred Dinkelspiel, of New York; and Messrs. Malcolm Auerbach, Representative and Mrs. Bourke Cockran, Miss Wetmore, Miss Boardman, Mr. Charles H. Marshall, of New York; Miss Evelyn Marshall, of New York; Mr. von Prittwitz, of the German Embassy, and Miss Nabuco, daughter of the Brazilian Ambassador.

The Vice President and Mrs. Sherman have a small house party for the week end, in the former home of the former Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Garfield, in Massachusetts avenue, for whom they entertained a small company at dinner last evening. Among the guests were the three Misses Miller, of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury Blair were hosts at dinner last night in their Pennsylvania avenue home, with a small informal company.

Mrs. Isham Hornsby entertained at luncheon yesterday.

Mrs. Fremont, wife of Capt. John C. Fremont, U. S. N., entertained at luncheon Friday. Her guests included Mrs. Henry Cleveland Perkins, Mrs. Julian James, Mrs. Arthur Lee, Mrs. Hunt Slater, Mrs. C. A. Williams, Mrs. W. West, Miss Maury, Miss Woodhull, and Miss Fremont.

Mr. Ben de Mier Miller was host at a very pretty luncheon at the Chevy Chase Club last Sunday, given in honor of his wife's friends, Mrs. Frank Talbot.

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Cards are out for a mi-Careme dance to be given by Mrs. McLean, wife of Commander Walter McLean, U. S. N.; and Mrs. Martin, wife of Pay Director John R. Martin, U. S. N., on Saturday evening, March 20, at 9 o'clock, in the navy yard.

Miss Mildred Dinkelspiel, of New York, is the guest of Miss Celeste Goodman.

Mrs. Morris Baumgarten, of New York, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Samuel Liebschutz.

Mr. Walter D. Grant, of Boston, is spending a few days with his sister, Mrs. B. F. Grant, at 47 East Capitol street.

Miss Natalie Mayer, of Fifth street, entertained at luncheon Wednesday, complimentary to Miss Dora Garner and Miss Bessie Reynier, of Newport News, Va., the guests of Miss Florence Gudsorf.

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BECKER'S LEATHER GOODS CO.

1324-1326 F Street N. W.

16th Semi-annual Clearance Sale

Trunks, Bags, Suit Cases.

The most important sale we hold. Regular stock is reduced to a point that guarantees its quick clearance. The original price tags remain on all goods. Nothing has been "bought up" for the purpose of making an apparent reduction. You profit by an absolute sacrifice on our part of the best and most desirable goods produced.

About 500 Trunks Included in This Sale.

DRESS TRUNKS.	
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$9.50 to \$7.25
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$14.25 to \$10.75
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$21.00 to \$15.00
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$31.50 to \$24.00
24-in. Rawhide Bound.....	\$45.00 to \$27.00
Others reduced to as low as \$5.50.	
STEAMER TRUNKS.	
34-in. Metal Bound.....	\$5.75 to \$4.50
34-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$8.00 to \$6.00
28-in. Rawhide Bound.....	\$16.50 to \$12.50
26-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$21.00 to \$15.75
42-in. Leather Bound.....	\$22.50 to \$14.75
SKIRT TRUNKS.	
With 3 and 4 trays, waist tray, &c.	\$22.00 to \$20.50
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$22.50 to \$16.75
28-in. Rawhide Bound.....	\$35.50 to \$28.75
40-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$32.00 to \$25.00
Others in 42 and 44 inch as low as \$15.50.	
LADIES' HAT TRUNKS.	
Removable forms and trays.	
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$11.25 to \$8.50
24-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$9.75 to \$7.50
24-in. Metal Bound.....	\$8.75 to \$5.99
24-in. Leather Bound.....	\$12.00 to \$10.00
24-in. Rawhide Bound.....	\$16.50 to \$14.00
MEN'S TRUNKS.	
Special Compartments for Hats, Shoes, Shirts, Small Wear, and Clothing.	
36-in. Metal Bound.....	\$14.00 to \$10.50
36-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$16.00 to \$12.00
28-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$18.50 to \$14.00
26-in. Rawhide Bound.....	\$27.00 to \$20.50
BUREAU AND CHIFFONIER TRUNKS.	
36-in. Metal Bound.....	\$14.50 to \$11.50
36-in. Fibre Bound.....	\$24.50 to \$18.50
40-in. Metal Bound.....	\$26.00 to \$19.50
40-in. Leather Bound.....	\$32.00 to \$18.75

Rattan Trunks, Shoe Trunks, Cab Trunks, Motor Trunks, Shirt-waist Trunks, Golf Trunks, Wardrobe Trunks.

Entire stock of high-grade English and Domestic Suit Cases, Kit Bags, Oxford Bags, Gladstones, Coat Cases, Silk Hat Boxes, &c., included in this sale at greatly reduced prices.

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of New York, Mrs. Miller's relative and house guest, and Miss Lily Wickersham, sister of Attorney General Wickersham, who was stopping at the Sheraton with her sister, Lady Hadfield, of England. Lady Hadfield was ill with a severe cold and unable to be present. The other guests were Mrs. Miller, her daughter, Miss Frances Miller, Mr. Norman Bestor, and Capt. Norton, U. S. N.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Eakin Gadsby, of Georgetown, had a small company last evening for dinner to celebrate Mrs. Gadsby's birthday.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

Potomac Chapter, D. A. R., was entertained at the home of the Misses Thornton, in Massachusetts avenue, last Wednesday. Mrs. W. H. Wannamaker read a splendid paper on "The Boston massacre." Mrs. Drury Conway Ludlow, the regent, gave an interesting talk on "Folk grounds" and "Child labor." The business meeting was followed by a social hour. Among the guests were Mrs. Thornton, the Misses Broad, Miss Higgins, and Mrs. P. K. Finn, of Tidewater, N. Y.

The members of the Dolly Madison Chapter, D. A. R., were entertained by Mrs. Spahnoff, of 305 Hillier place, last Tuesday evening. After the usual business meeting there were violin solos by Mrs. Lewis, accompanied by Mr. Gichner, a vocal solo by Mrs. Creman, and a "Bit of history, past and present," by the historian, Mrs. Spahnoff. Mr. Gichner created much enthusiasm by his reading of the Declaration. "America" was sung and refreshments were served.

The March meeting of Eckington W. C. T. U. was held at 13 R street northeast, the home of Mrs. Pollock. Reports from superintendents of departments were very encouraging. There were many members present. Fifteen new members have been added to the roll of the society since December.

Miss Anna Vernon Dorsey, who is well known here socially and professionally, will give a recital of her inimitable Southern negro folk song, folk lore, and monologues at the residence of Mrs. Justice Harlan, 1401 Euclid street, Tuesday afternoon, March 23, at 4 o'clock. The patronesses of the affair comprise a long list of women distinguished in Washington's social circles. Miss Dorsey has given her famous entertainment in the homes of the smartest people in New York, Boston, London, and the great summer resorts in this country.

The patronesses are Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. Bryce, Countess Molke, Baroness Monchour, Mrs. Brewer, Mr. De, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Harlan, Mrs. Hugh Wallace, Mrs. White, Mrs. Knox, Mrs. Deane, Mrs. Elkins, Mrs. Hale, Miss Kean, Mrs. Wetmore, Mrs. Lutz Anderson, Mrs. Gattard, Mrs. Francis R. Crownshield, Mrs. Ed Tiffany Dyer, Mrs. Dryden, Mrs. Mark Hanna, Mrs. James Harlan, Mrs. Richard Harlow, Mrs. John Hay, Mrs. Janin, Miss Kibbey, Mrs. Arthur Lee, Miss Litchfield, Mrs. H. F. Macfarland, Mrs. Randolph McKim, Mrs. Morris Murray, Mrs. P. Lee Phillips, Miss Alice Riggs, Mrs. Hunt Slater, Mrs. Freeman-Singh, Mrs. Charles A. Spaulding, Mrs. J. Selwyn Taft, Mrs. Herbert Wade-Smith, and Mrs. Ten Eyck Wendell.

Mirrah Ali Kull, Khan, consul of Persia at Washington, has returned here from a visit in San Francisco, where he was greatly entertained by many smart people known in Washington society, and where he gave a course of lectures on "Persia, and things Persian" to a class of men and women in the smart set there, and before the University of California. He was introduced by Mrs. Caroline, elder daughter of Mrs. George M. Pullman and sister of Mrs. Frank O. Lowden, at a tea at the Fairmont Hotel.

Another course of lectures was given by him at the Dominican College. Mrs. Phoebe Hearst entertained a gifted lecturer at dinner after one of his lectures, and he was the guest of honor at innumerable suppers and other affairs. He also spent some time at polo, in which game he is skilled. He begins his series here to-morrow afternoon at Mrs. Hennes Jennings' residence, on "The women of Persia."

A very delightful social evening of the senior Christian Endeavor Society of St. Paul's English Lutheran Church was spent last Wednesday evening, March 10, at the paragon, 78 Eleventh street northwest. After the formal business of the evening was disposed of, games were played, and later refreshments were served.

The "Enewah Club" and "J. O. C. Class," combined, of Hamline Church, were entertained at the home of Miss Marie Warren last Monday evening. It being the regular business meeting of both societies, an elaborate programme was prepared. Some music was rendered

by Miss Sadie White and Miss Matilda Warren, of Baltimore. Recitations by Miss Isabelle Pearson, and some unique and original games were played, for which some beautiful prizes were awarded. Those receiving prizes were: Mr. George Parks, Mr. W. L. Evans, Mr. Logan, Miss Kara Peck, Miss Eva Hillier, Miss Lula Adams, and Miss Bessie Lee Crockett.

An interesting feature of the evening's entertainment was the rendition of a poem by the author, Miss Marie Warren, and dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Watson. Those present were:

Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Rochester, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Embrey, Miss Lula Adams, Miss Louise Boyd, Elizabeth Byron, Josie Byron, Bessie Lee Crockett, Maggie Ballinger, Annie Ballinger, Edith Head, Bertha Head, Bessie Kiser, Gertrude Kiser, Rachel Long, Julia Mohler, Julia Parks, Isabelle Pearson, Flora Pierce, Kara Peck, Florence Miliken, Ethel Benton, Ruby Shaver, Miss Lillian Hamilton, of Boston; Virginia Embrey, Laura Embrey, Mrs. O'Neil, Mabel Willis, Ida Williams, Sadie White, Esther Embrey, Nettie Embrey, Mattie Warren, of Baltimore; Lena Embrey, and Miss Marie Warren.

Messrs. Mark A. Watson, E. R. Rochester, George Parks, Charley Parks, C. E. Warren, H. A. Havens, W. L. Evans, N. P. Goulder, T. Humphrey, Jr., A. F. Henderson, Samuel G. Hamilton, of Boston; H. Thomas, R. Drake, H. E. Tanton, G. Reptus, W. O. Cornelius, Mr. Jones, George Rezes, Jerome Reimers, W. B. Isherwood, C. H. Miller, C. A. Robbins, C. B. Cornelius, R. O. Drach, F. B. Gorman, and Waldo Clark.

The lecture on "The Women of Shakespeare," to be given by Mrs. George T. Smallwood on Tuesday evening in the Washington Club for the benefit of the Eye and Ear Hospital, the Bell Home, and Rector's Aid Society of St. Thomas' Church, is attracting widespread attention, owing to Mrs. Smallwood's large acquaintance and success.

GEORGETOWN.

The Misses Williams, of Norfolk, Va., are visiting Miss Truett for ten days.

Mrs. Hurl Albright, of Havana, Cuba, was the guest of friends here during the inauguration.

David Hillhouse Buel, S. J., of Philadelphia, spent several days last week in Georgetown.

Miss Mary Hines left last Monday for her home in Baltimore after a short stay with friends in Georgetown.

Mrs. Charles A. Owens, of Norfolk, left recently for her home, after a short visit to relatives in this city.

Mrs. S. Blount Mason, who has been the house guest of Miss Mason, returned last Monday to Bogota, N. J